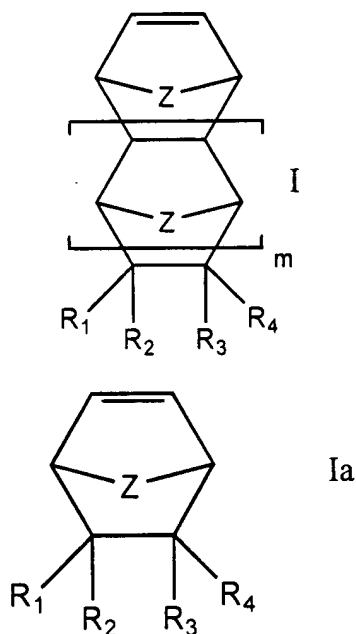


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the following claims for the pending claims of the same number.

1. (Currently Amended) A photo-imageable composition comprising an acrylate-norbornene copolymer comprising from about 15 to about 90 mole% acrylate-type units and from about 85 to about 10 mole% norbornene-type units, one or the other of the acrylate-type units or norbornene-type units comprising an acid labile moiety, and where each of said norbornene-type units are 4 substituted, 5 substituted or a mixture thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) The photo-imageable composition of Claim 1, where the norbornene-type units comprise norbornene, norbornadiene and compounds conforming to the general formulae I or Ia:



where m is an integer from 0 to 5; and Z represents $\text{--CH}_2\text{--}$, oxygen, sulfur, or --NH-- , or $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_p\text{--}$ where p is equal to 1 or 2; R₁ to R₄ are substituents independently selected from hydrogen, a halogen, linear or branched (C₁ to C₃₀) alkyls, linear or branched (C₁ to C₂₄) halohydrocarbyls, linear or branched (C₂ to C₃₀) olefins; $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(O)OR}^*$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(O)OR}'$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{OR}$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{OC(O)R}$,

$-(CH_2)_n C(O)R$, $-(CH_2)_n -OC(O)OR'$, $-(CH_2)_n C(R)_2 CH(R)(C(O)OR^{**})$,
 $-(CH_2)_n (CR_2)_n CH(R)(C(O)OR^{**})$, $-(CH_2)_n C(OR^{***})(CF_3)_2$, $-(CR''_2)_n OR$,
 $-CH_2-[O(CH_2)_n]_{m^*}-C(OR^{***})(CF_3)_2$ and $-(CH_2)_n C(R)_2 CH(C(O)OR^{**})_2$, and where R
and R' can be hydrogen or linear and branched (C_1 to C_{10}) alkyls or hydroxy
functional linear and branched (C_1 to C_{10}) alkyls, R'' can be hydrogen or a
halogen; n and m^* are each an integer from 0 to 10; R* is an acid labile moiety
selected from the group consisting of $-C(CH_3)_3$, $-Si(CH_3)_3$, isobornyl, 2-methyl-
2-adamantyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydropyranoyl, 3-oxocyclohexanonyl and
mevalonic lactonyl groups; R** is an independently selected R' or R*, where R'
and R* are as defined above and R* further includes tertiary (C_4 to C_{20}) alkyl
and cycloalkyl groups, tri(C_1 to C_6) alkylsilyl groups and oxoalkyl groups of 4 to
20 carbon atoms; R*** includes hydrogen, $-CH_2OR'''$, $-(CH_2)_{m^{**}}-C(O)OR'''$ or
 $-C(O)R'''$, where R''' is methyl, ethyl, tert-butyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or other
linear and branched (C_3 to C_{10}) alkyls and (C_4 to C_{20}) cycloaliphatics and m^{**} is
0 or 1.

3. (Original) The photo-imageable composition of Claim 2, further comprising a photo acid generator and a solvent.

4. (Original) The photo-imageable composition of Claim 3, further comprising at least one of a dissolution rate modifier, a base quencher and/or a sensitizer.

5. (Original) The photo-imageable composition of Claim 4, where the acrylate-type units and/or the norbornene-type units comprise more than one type of acrylate-type unit and/or norbornene-type unit, respectively, and at least one of the acrylate-type units and/or the norbornene-type units comprise an acid labile moiety.

6. (Original) A photo-imageable composition comprising a polymer having from about 15 to about 90 mole% of acrylate-type units and from about

85 to about 10 mole% of norbornene-type units, where the acrylate-type units and/or the norbornene-type units comprise more than one type of acrylate-type unit and/or norbornene-type unit, respectively, and at least one of the acrylate-type units and/or the norbornene-type units comprise an acid labile moiety.

7. (Original) The photo-imageable composition of Claim 6, further comprising one or more additives selected from the group consisting of a photoacid generator, a solvent, a sensitizer, a base quencher and a dissolution rate modifier.

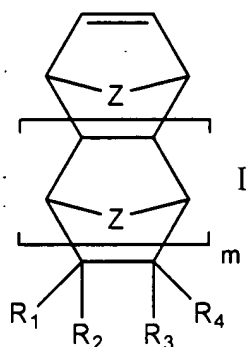
8. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a photo-imageable composition comprising:

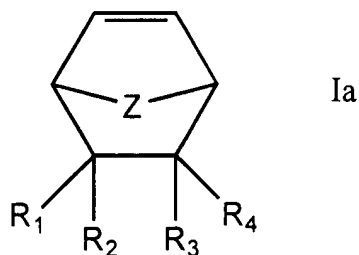
causing an acrylate-type monomer and a norbornene-type monomer, where said norbornene-type monomer is either 4 substituted or 5 substituted, to polymerize to form a polymer, one or the other of the acrylate-type monomer or the norbornene-type monomer comprising an acid labile moiety;

dissolving the polymer in a solvent to form a solution; and

adding to the solution an additive selected from the group consisting of a photoacid generator, a solvent, a sensitizer, a base quencher and a dissolution rate modifier.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8, where the norborne-type monomer comprises norbornene, norbornadiene and compounds conforming to the general formulae I or Ia:





where m is an integer from 0 to 5; and Z represents $-\text{CH}_2-$, oxygen, sulfur, or $-\text{NH}-$, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_p-$ where p is equal to 1 or 2; R_1 to R_4 are substituents independently selected from hydrogen, a halogen, linear or branched (C_1 to C_{30}) alkyls, linear or branched (C_1 to C_{24}) halohydrocarbyls, linear or branched (C_2 to C_{30}) olefins; $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^*$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}'$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OR}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{R}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{OR}'$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}(\text{R})_2\text{CH}(\text{R})(\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{**})$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n(\text{CR}_2)_n\text{CH}(\text{R})(\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{**})$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}(\text{OR}^{***})(\text{CF}_3)_2$, $-(\text{CR}'')_n\text{OR}$, $-\text{CH}_2-[\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_n]_m-\text{C}(\text{OR}^{***})(\text{CF}_3)_2$ and $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}(\text{R})_2\text{CH}(\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{**})_2$, and where R and R' can be hydrogen or linear and branched (C_1 to C_{10}) alkyls or hydroxy functional linear and branched (C_1 to C_{10}) alkyls, R'' can be hydrogen or a halogen; n and m^* are each an integer from 0 to 10; R^* is an acid labile moiety selected from the group consisting of $-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, $-\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-adamantyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydropyranyloxy, 3-oxocyclohexanonyl and mevalonic lactonyl groups; R^{**} is an independently selected R' or R^* , where R' and R^* are as defined above and R^* further includes tertiary (C_4 to C_{20}) alkyl and cycloalkyl groups, tri(C_1 to C_6) alkylsilyl groups and oxoalkyl groups of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; R^{***} includes hydrogen, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OR}'''$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}'''$ or $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'''$, where R''' is methyl, ethyl, tert-butyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or other linear and branched (C_3 to C_{10}) alkyls and (C_4 to C_{20}) cycloaliphatics and m^{**} is 0 or 1.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, where the causing to form a polymer comprises an addition polymerization using a neutral or cationic Pd catalyst.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, where the causing to form a polymer comprises forming a polymer having from about 15 to about 90 mole% of acrylate units and from about 85 to about 10 mole% of norbornene units.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 9, where the causing to form a polymer comprises forming a polymer having from about 15 to about 90 mole% of acrylate units and from about 85 to about 10 mole% of norbornene units, where the acrylate units and/or the norbornene units comprise more than one type of acrylate unit and/or norbornene unit, respectively, and at least one of the types of acrylate units and/or the norbornene units comprise an acid labile moiety.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a patterned structure on a substrate, comprising:

providing a substrate;

applying a photo-imageable composition to said substrate to form a layer of the photo-imageable composition on said substrate, the photo-imageable composition comprising:

an imageable polymer consisting essentially of from about 15 to about 90 mole% acrylate-type units and from about 85 to about 10 mole% norbornene-type units, one or the other of the acrylate-type units or norbornene-type units comprising an acid labile moiety, and where each of said norbornene-type units are 4 substituted, 5 substituted or a mixture thereof; and

a photo acid generator;

patternwise exposing the layer to radiation whereby acid is generated by said photosensitive acid generator in exposed regions of the layer by the radiation; and

contacting the layer with an aqueous alkaline developer solution, whereby the exposed regions of the layer are selectively dissolved by said developer solution to form the patterned structure.

14. (Original) The method of forming a patterned structure of Claim 13, further comprising:

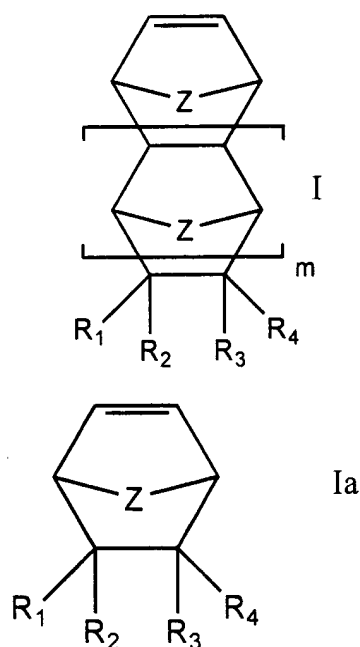
before providing the substrate, forming a material layer on the substrate, the material layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of a semiconductor material, an insulating material and a conductive material;

applying the photo-imageable composition comprises applying the photo-imageable composition on the material layer; and

transferring the patterned structure to the material layer to form a patterned material layer structure.

15. (Original) The method of forming a patterned structure of Claim 14, where the transferring comprises a reactive ion etch process.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of forming a patterned structure of Claim 14, where the norbornene-type units of the imageable polymer comprise norbornene, norbornadiene and compounds conforming to the general formulae I or Ia:



where m is an integer from 0 to 5; and Z represents $\text{--CH}_2\text{--}$, oxygen, sulfur, or --NH-- , or $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_p\text{--}$ where p is equal to 1 or 2; R_1 to R_4 are substituents independently selected from hydrogen, a halogen, linear or branched (C_1 to C_{30}) alkyls, linear or branched (C_1 to C_{24}) halohydrocarbyls, linear or branched (C_2 to C_{30}) olefins; $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(O)OR}^*$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(O)OR}'$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{OR}$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{OC(O)R}$, $\text{(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(O)R}$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{--OC(O)OR}'$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(R)}_2\text{CH(R)(C(O)OR}^{**}\text{)}$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{(CR}_2\text{)}_n\text{CH(R)(C(O)OR}^{**}\text{)}$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(OR}^{***}\text{)(CF}_3\text{)}_2$, $\text{--(CR}''\text{)}_2\text{nOR}$, $\text{--CH}_2\text{--[O(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{]}_m\text{--C(OR}^{***}\text{)(CF}_3\text{)}_2$ and $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{C(R)}_2\text{CH(C(O)OR}^{**}\text{)}_2$, and where R and R' can be hydrogen or linear and branched (C_1 to C_{10}) alkyls or hydroxy functional linear and branched (C_1 to C_{10}) alkyls, R'' can be hydrogen or a halogen; n and m* are each an integer from 0 to 10; R^* is an acid labile moiety selected from the group consisting of $\text{--C(CH}_3\text{)}_3$, $\text{--Si(CH}_3\text{)}_3$, isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-adamantyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydropyranoyl, 3-oxocyclohexanonyl and mevalonic lactonyl groups; R^{**} is an independently selected R' or R^* , where R' and R^* are as defined above and R^* further includes tertiary (C_4 to C_{20}) alkyl and cycloalkyl groups, tri(C_1 to C_6) alkylsilyl groups and oxoalkyl groups of 4 to 20 carbon atoms; R^{***} includes hydrogen, $\text{--CH}_2\text{OR}'''$, $\text{--(CH}_2\text{)}_m\text{--C(O)OR}'''$ or $\text{--C(O)R}'''$, where R''' is methyl, ethyl, tert-butyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or other linear and branched (C_3 to C_{10}) alkyls and (C_4 to C_{20}) cycloaliphatics and m** is 0 or 1.